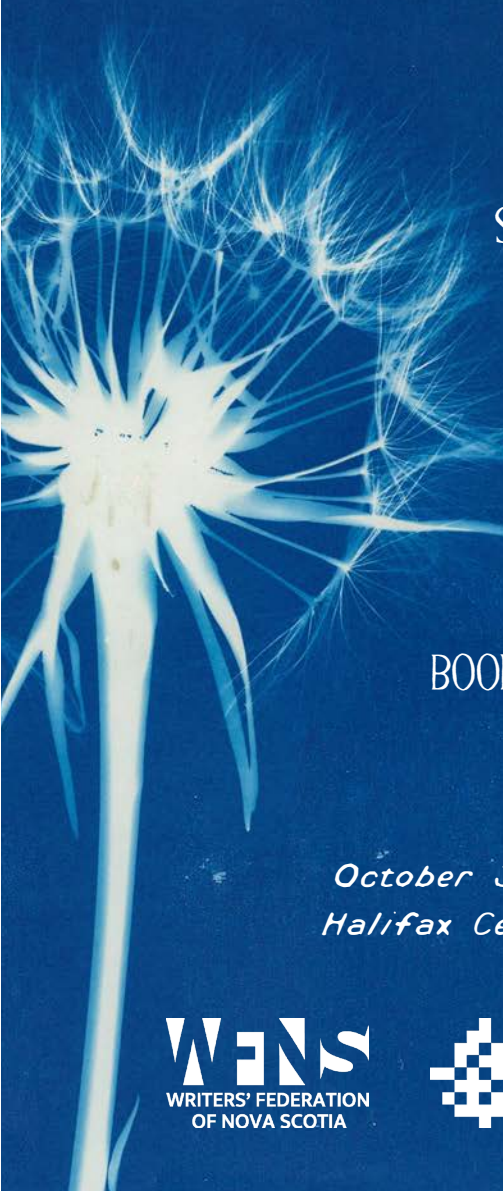


BOOKTOBERFEST 2026



SCHEDULE ...	1
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BOOK MARKET MAP ...	<i>back cover</i>

*October 3, 11am - 3pm
Halifax Central Library*

WFNS
WRITERS' FEDERATION
OF NOVA SCOTIA



Halifax Public
Libraries

NOVA SCOTIA
Gaming
support
4 culture

BOOKTOBERFEST 2026

presented by the
**Writers' Federation of
Nova Scotia (WFNS)**



in partnership with
**Halifax Public
Libraries**



with support from
Support 4 Culture



SCHEDULE

Book Market
(Paul O'Regan Hall)
See pages 2 - 6
Table map on back cover

Readings
(BMO Community
Room)
See page 7

Workshops
(Room 301)
See page 8

11:00am

All authors,
publishers,
& special guests

Carol Bruneau
The Little Way (fiction)

**Mythic Monsters:
a poetry workshop**
led by
Tegan Zimmerman

12:00pm

**Veronica Post &
Emma FitzGerald**
(graphic novel; picture book)

**Women with Agency:
a fiction workshop**
led by
Cheryl Lawson

1:00pm

Michelle Hébert
*A Good Girl's Guide to
Lying* (memoir)

**Sparkling Bookish Joy
when Writing for
Children**
led by
Lana Shupe

2:00pm

Mere Joyce
As the Snow Gathers
(horror fiction)

**An Anatomy of
Romance: a fiction
workshop**
led by
Denise Flint

3:00pm

Payment options at each vendor: \$=cash ✓=cheque ©=card E=e-transfer

PUBLISHERS

Table location

<i>The Antigoniish Review</i> (\$ ✓ ✓ E)	A14
• Recent magazine issues Fiction, poetry, & visual art	
Askance Publishing (\$ ✓ © E)	A3
• Cynthia French's <i>Barachois</i> Poetry	
• Isabel Gordon's <i>You Didn't Hear This From Me</i> Poetry	
• Caroline Jaine's <i>A Book of Days</i> Nonfiction (wellness)	
• David Wiseman's <i>Visitors</i> Fiction (paranormal; short stories)	
• signings by David Wiseman & Les French (representing Cynthia French)	
OC Publishing (\$ ✓ © E)	A2
• Patrick d'Entremont's <i>Acadian Shorelines</i> Fiction (historical)	
• Mark Gilbert's <i>Inside Indonesia's Big Bang</i> Nonfiction (memoir)	
• John Grant's <i>Flowers for Gaia</i> YA (sci-fi)	
• Carolyn J. Nicholson's <i>Isabel: The Quest for Freedom</i> Fiction (historical)	
• signings by Patrick d'Entremont	
Open Heart Forgery (\$ ✓ E)	A15
• Recent magazine issues Poetry	
Somewhat Grumpy Press (\$ © E)	A1
• Greta Du Bois Cleynhens's <i>Farewell, the Beloved Country</i> Nonfiction (memoir; history)	
• Jennifer McMullin's <i>The Curse of the Teed House</i> Fiction (horror)	
• Sherry Scully's <i>Marigold Grey</i> Fiction (historical)	
• Bernadette Shea's <i>Thumbin' the Rock</i> Nonfiction (travel)	
• signings by Tim R Covell (11am - 3pm), ATL Doyle (11am - 1pm), Carolyn J. Nicholson (1pm - 3pm), Bernadette Shea (1pm - 3pm), & Sherry Scully (11am - 1pm)	

SPECIAL GUESTS

Editors Atlantic	A16
• info on Editors Canada organization	
Francofest Book Fair	C1
• info on annual francophone book fair in Halifax (Oct 23 to 31, 2026)	
Writers' Federation of Nova Scotia (\$ ✓ © E)	C2
• info on upcoming workshops & program deadlines	
• <i>Blue Lobster Detective Agency 2026</i> Fiction (crime; mystery)	
• <i>Nova Swoons 2026</i> Fiction (romance)	
• <i>Nova Writes Anthology 2026</i> Fiction, nonfiction, poetry, & YA	
• <i>Terra Nova Scotia 2026</i> Fiction (sci-fi; fantasy; horror)	

For table locations (e.g., A1), see back cover

AUTHORS (A – D)

Table location

Sherri Aikenhead (\$ ✓ E)	A9
<i>The First Survivor: Life With Canada's Deadliest Mass Shooter</i> Nonfiction (memoir; true crime)	
Debra Amirault Camelin (\$ ✓ E)	A12
<i>Acadian Odyssey: The Return of Ange Amirault</i> Fiction (historical)	
Cindy Auwaerter (represented by Christine Sharp) (\$ ✓)	B8
<i>The Souls</i> Poetry	
G. M. Baker (\$ © E)	A13
<i>The Withered King</i> Fiction (fantasy; fairytale)	
Mark Baker (\$ ✓ E)	A11
<i>Heart of a Lumberman</i> Fiction (historical; military)	
Katherine Barrett (\$ © E)	A7
<i>Wild Talk: Conversations with Plants</i> Nonfiction (nature)	
N.L. Blandford (\$ © E)	A5
<i>On The Perilous Road</i> Fiction (psychological thriller)	
Sonja Boon (\$ ✓ E)	A7
<i>Dear Mr. Smallwood: Confederation in the words of those who lived it</i> Nonfiction (historical, anthology)	
Gina N. Brown (\$ © E)	B5
<i>Pickled in Love</i> Fiction (romantic comedy)	
Carol Bruneau (\$ ✓ E)	B12
<i>The Little Way</i> Fiction (literary)	
Owen C. Caldwell (\$ ✓ E)	B4
<i>The Craving</i> Fiction (romantic thriller; crime)	
S. E. Conway (\$ ✓ E)	B7
<i>Le Pédophilie</i> Drama (crime)	
<i>I Do Not Know English</i> Poetry	
Will Cooper (\$ ©)	B10
<i>Lotus</i> Fiction (sci-fi)	
Tim R Covell	A1
signing at Somewhat Grumpy Press (see “Publishers”)	
Amy-Lynn Denham (\$ ©)	A13
<i>Echoes of You</i> Fiction (fantasy)	
Jane Doucet (\$ E)	A6
<i>Blood Typed</i> Fiction (mystery; comedy)	

Payment options at each vendor: \$=cash ✓=cheque ©=card E=e-transfer

AUTHORS (D – J)

Table location

ATL Doyle	A1
signing at Somewhat Grumpy Press (see “Publishers”)	
Patrick d’Entremont	A2
signing at OC Publishing (see “Publishers”)	
Bronwyn Fairchild (\$ © E)	B15
<i>Skygull Calamity</i> Children’s (sci-fi)	
Arwen Falvey (\$ ©)	B8
<i>A Game of Consorts</i> Fiction (sci-fi; fantasy)	
Jan Fancy Hull (\$ © E)	A4
<i>October: Underground</i> Fiction (mystery)	
<i>November: Witness</i> Fiction (mystery)	
Emma FitzGerald (\$ © E)	B1
<i>The Man in Motion: How Rick Hansen’s World Tour Broke Down Barriers for People with Disabilities</i> Children’s (picture book)	
Denise Flint (\$ E)	B4
<i>Home For Christmas</i> Fiction (romance)	
Deanna Foster (\$ © E)	A10
<i>The Devil in Spades</i> Fiction (gothic; crime)	
Cathryn Fox (\$ E)	B3
<i>Stick Legend</i> Fiction (romance)	
Cynthia French (represented by Les French)	A3
signing at Askance Publishing (see “Publishers”)	
Lindsey Harrington (\$ © E)	A8
<i>Nobody’s Mother: A Childfree Memoir</i> Nonfiction (memoir)	
Michelle Hébert (\$ © E)	A9
<i>A Good Girl’s Guide to Lying: Losing My Memory, Searching for Truth, & Confronting Complex Trauma</i> Nonfiction (memoir)	
Corinne Hoebbers (\$ E)	A12
<i>Tethered Spirits</i> Fiction (historical)	
Steven Holloway (\$ ✓ E)	B7
<i>The Watergate Cantata (Libretto and History)</i> Drama (historical)	
Mere Joyce (\$ E)	B11
<i>As the Snow Gathers</i> Fiction (horror; queer)	

Table locations (e.g., A1), see back cover

AUTHORS (K – P)

Table location

Alan Kemister (Phil Yeats) (\$ ✓ E)	A5
<i>Follow the Hearse</i> Fiction (mystery)	
Stuart King (\$ © E)	B14
<i>Grayson the Giraffe Climbs a Mountain</i> Children's (picture book)	
Cheryl Lawson (\$ © E)	B9
<i>Vega One</i> Fiction (sci-fi)	
<i>Adventures on the Wild Side</i> Poetry & photography	
Corinne Lewandowski (\$ © E)	B9
<i>Star Chatter: A Collection From Across the Verse</i> Fiction (sci-fi)	
Betty McEachern (\$ E)	A10
<i>Walruses have come a long way in just a day</i> Nonfiction (memoir)	
Joanne Merriam (\$ ✓ E)	B6
<i>Aether and Ego</i> Fiction (sci-fi; romance)	
Mireille Messier (\$ © E)	B14
<i>Fern and Newt and the Lost Loot</i> Children's (illustrated chapter book)	
Rejeanne Morin (\$ © E)	A8
<i>Turn on the Light</i> Nonfiction (wellness)	
<i>De l'ombre à la lumière</i> Nonfiction (wellness; francophone)	
Jan Morrison (\$ ✓ E)	A4
<i>Little Birds</i> Fiction (mystery)	
donalee Moulton (\$ ✓ © E)	A6
<i>Cardinal</i> Fiction (mystery; paranormal)	
Gregory Munroe (\$ © E)	B16
<i>Hybrid: Henry</i> Fiction (fantasy)	
Carolyn J. Nicholson	A1
signing at Somewhat Grumpy Press (see "Publishers")	
Nicole Northwood (\$ ©)	B2
<i>The Devil You Know</i> Fiction (romance; fantasy)	
<i>In Flames</i> Fiction (romance; fantasy)	
Veronica Post (\$ E)	B1
<i>Let the Good Times Roll</i> Graphic novel (autobiography)	

Payment options at each vendor: \$=cash ✓=cheque ©=card E=e-transfer

AUTHORS (R – Z)

Table location

Cat Rector (\$ © E)	B11
<i>Learning To Bleed (Vampires of Coal Dust Book 2)</i> Fiction (horror; queer)	
Rebecca Rose (\$ ✓ E)	B16
<i>Amazing 2SLGBTQIA+ People in Atlantic Canada</i> YA (nonfiction)	
T. Rushton (\$ E)	B3
<i>Twisted Fantasies</i> Fiction (dark romance)	
<i>Break For Me</i> Fiction (dark romance)	
Cristina Santos (\$ © E)	B2
<i>Down Home</i> Fiction (romance)	
Lana Shupe (\$ E)	B13
<i>Seasons of the Heart</i> Fiction (short stories)	
Anne M. Smith-Nochasak (\$ ✓ © E)	B10
<i>River Reflects Earth (Taggak Journey Trilogy, Book 3)</i> Fiction (sci-fi)	
Heidi Tattrie Rushton (\$ E)	B5
<i>Good for Goodness' Sake</i> Fiction (romance)	
Sherry Scully	A1
signing at Somewhat Grumpy Press (see “Publishers”)	
Bernadette Shea	A1
signing at Somewhat Grumpy Press (see “Publishers”)	
Jonny Thompson (©)	B13
<i>Christmas at the Old Mill</i> Fiction	
Shelley Thompson (\$ ✓ © E)	B12
<i>Winter Sky</i> Fiction (short stories)	
Andy Tolson (\$ © E)	B15
<i>How to Wrestle a Kraken</i> Children's (middle-grade)	
Brenda Tyedmers (\$ ✓ © E)	A11
<i>Mrs. Walford</i> Fiction (historical)	
David Wiseman	A1
signing at Askance Publishing (see “Publishers”)	
Tegan Zimmerman (\$ E)	B6
<i>Chimeras</i> Poetry	

For table locations (e.g., A1), see back cover

READINGS

BMO Community Room (2nd floor)
All welcome



Carol Bruneau

11:30am - 12pm

***The Little Way* | Fiction**

In a city eroding both physically and spiritually, “hopelessly” romantic Isla struggles to keep her flower shop afloat despite the threat of conglomerates, vandals, and petty criminals; protect her coveted property from vulture capitalists, infilling, and soulless “starter castles”; and shore up her heart as she asks herself, once and for all, what kind of love she deserves.



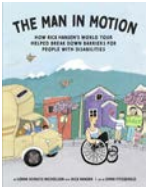
Veronica Post & Emma FitzGerald

12pm - 12:30pm

***Let the Good Times Roll* | Graphic novel**

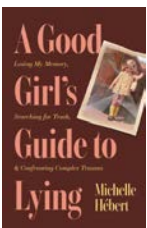


Join the Post family for a vacation à la wheelchair! See how disabled travellers and their loved ones come up with creative solutions while navigating barriers abroad. Designed to expose the reality of travel in a wheelchair to able-bodied readers, this book fosters greater understanding and change toward a more inclusive world.



***The Man in Motion* | Picture book**

In 1973, at the age of 15, Rick Hansen was in a life-changing car accident that left him paralyzed from the waist down. Twelve years later, motivated by the challenges he faced, Rick embarked on the two-year-long Man In Motion World Tour, wheeling 40,075 kilometers through 34 countries on four continents.

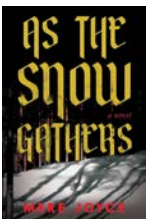


Michelle Hébert

1pm - 1:30pm

***A Good Girl's Guide to Lying* | Memoir**

A mystery disguised as a memoir, this deeply layered story of complex trauma takes readers on one woman's search for decades of memories lost. Gaslighted by misogyny and a broken health-care system, and forced to reinvent herself over and over again, Michelle must piece together the fragments of her past to uncover what happened one August afternoon in the 1980s.



Mere Joyce

1:30pm - 2pm

***As the Snow Gathers* | Fiction (horror)**

Dominic and Lex dream of escaping Aplin Shade, a place where isolation breeds judgment and every kindness hides a cost. But the forest is no refuge. The Fanteur dwell there—shadowed beings who come at night to drain the dead of their blood and return them for burial by dawn. They've never touched the living. Until now.

WORKSHOPS

Room 301 (3rd floor)

Drop-ins welcome while space is available | Stop by early to reserve your seat!

Mythic Monsters: a poetry workshop

11am - 11:45am

led by **Tegan Zimmerman**

This poetry workshop will concentrate on the creative expression of mythic creatures. First focusing on how to select a mythic monster or creature, we'll then use a series of prompts and questions to develop our ideas into a more fully realized creative concepts. We'll create word-clouds and highlight ideas, phrases, and lines that can be shaped into draft poems, and we'll discuss why and how returning to myth can offer multiple possibilities for creative and critical expression.

Women with Agency: a fiction workshop

12pm - 12:45pm

led by **Cheryl Lawson**

This workshop is designed to help fiction writers build their awareness of character agency. We'll consider agency in lived experience and in the contexts of fiction and psychology, gaining useful insights on developing agency partnership between men and women characters and approaching vulnerability, permission, and violence. Discussion will draw on popular fiction examples to illustrate the presence or lack of agency. While focusing on women characters, the workshop will address elements of agency that also apply to non-binary, trans, and other gender-marginalized characters.

Sparkling Bookish Joy when Writing for Children

1pm - 1:45pm

led by **Lana Shupe**

This engaging workshop explores the essential ingredients of memorable children's books by creating wonder through voice, humour, and heart—especially heart! Participants will discover techniques for inspiring young readers, weaving meaningful themes into age-appropriate stories and turning everyday moments into magical adventures. Whether you are just beginning your writing journey or polishing a manuscript, this workshop will provide practical tips and fresh inspiration to help you craft stories that children will treasure long after the final page.

An Anatomy of Romance: a fiction workshop

2pm - 2:45pm

led by **Denise Flint**

What makes a story romance? *Romeo and Juliet*. *Pride and Prejudice*. *Gone with the Wind*. *Outlander*. They're all famous love stories but are they all romances? This workshop will look at what makes a book a romance, what the various sub-genres of romance are and why its popularity has not only lasted but grown. We will explore what makes romance different from other genres, why it's frequently been reviled and dismissed, and whether it's finally getting the respect it deserves.



UPCOMING WFNS WORKSHOPS

writers.ns.ca/workshops

A Place to Build: spoken word workshop (Halifax) led by Andre Fenton	Th, Oct 8 to 29 (7pm - 9pm)
Self-Publishing Roadmap (Sydney) led by Sherry D. Ramsey	Tu, Oct 13 & 20 (7pm - 9pm)
Curating Nonfiction: From Clippings to Collage (virtual) led by Rebecca Rose	W, Oct 14 to 28 (7pm - 9pm)
Sending It Out: what to expect when submitting short genre fiction (virtual) led by Brittni Brinn	Th, Oct 15 & 22 (7pm - 9pm)
Writing with Tarot: Symbols, Archetypes, and the Creative Journey (virtual) led by Tiffany Morris	Tu, Oct 27 (7pm - 9pm)
Develop those Character Muscles (virtual) led by N.L. Blandford	Su, Nov 1 to 15 (1pm - 3pm)
Diving into Flash Nonfiction (virtual) led by Sandra Phinney	Tu, Nov 3 to 24 (7pm - 9pm)
In & Out of Form: Exploring Formal Poetry (virtual) led by Annick MacAskill	Th, Nov 5 to 26 (7pm - 9pm)

Workshop registration ranges from \$45 to \$185.



UPCOMING WFNS PROGRAMS

writers.ns.ca/programs

Alistair MacLeod Mentorship Program

apply by Oct 8

The Alistair MacLeod Mentorship Program supports writers who are on the cusp of book-length publication and who are committed to their writing and creative development. It is a disciplined, focused, and supportive one-on-one mentorship program through which writers expand and hone their craft.

Emerging Writers Prizes

submit by Oct 8

WFNS administers three prizes for emerging and early-career writers, each of which recognizes a unique set of barriers to literary creation & recognition and supports writers as they advance book-length works-in-progress.

Jampolis Cottage Self-Directed Retreats

apply by Oct 22

Self-Directed Retreats (one week in Avonport, NS) are open to Nova Scotian, Canadian, and international writers. Applicants should apply in creative groups (of two to five) but may also apply as solo writers. Self-Directed Retreats are private and provided at-cost: a base rate of \$550 + \$150 per creative resident.

Nova Scotia Book Awards & Atlantic Book Awards

submit by Nov 1

WFNS's provincial awards (for nonfiction and poetry) and regional awards (for fiction, poetry, and YA & children's literature) are open to traditionally, hybrid-, and indie-published books. Each year's finalist selections introduce local, national, and international readers to the vibrant literary culture of our region.

Nova Writes Competition

enter between Dec 3 and Jan 14

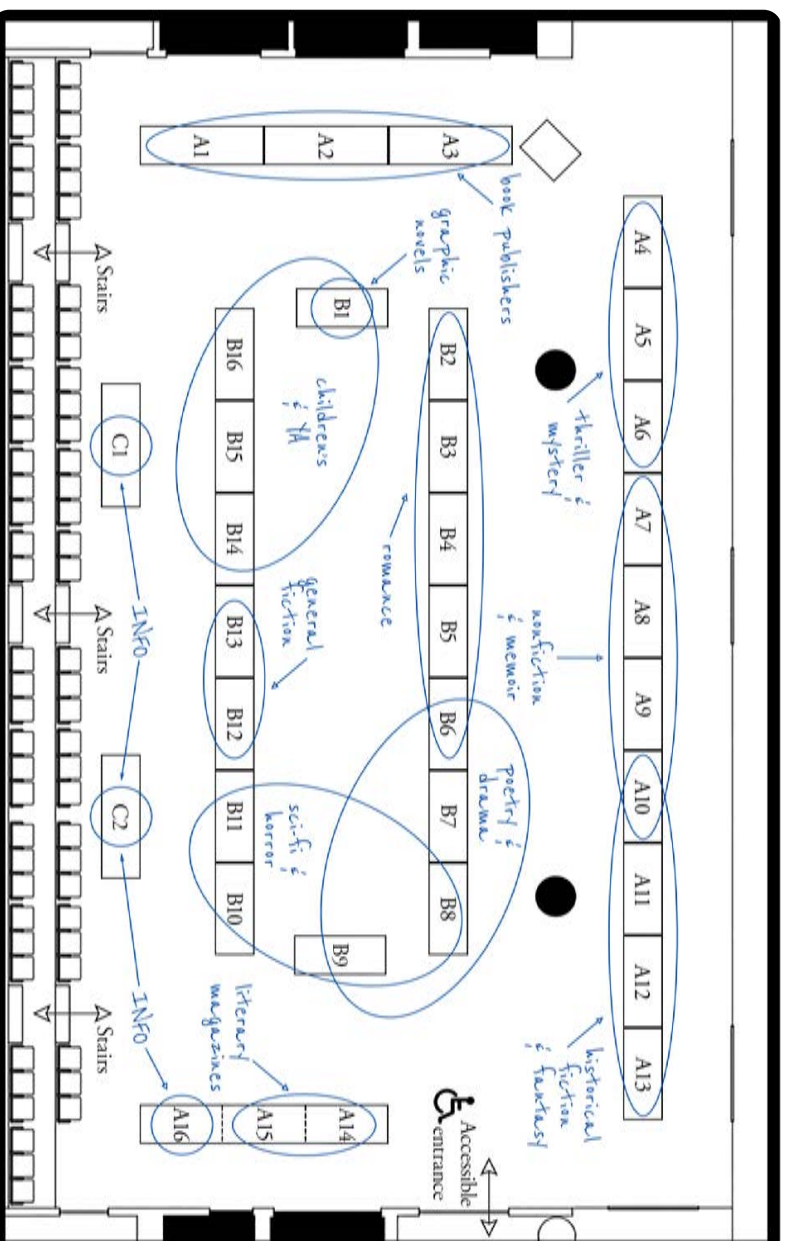
The Nova Writes Competition supports emerging writers in Nova Scotia—and more established writers exploring new forms—through developmental and publication opportunities. All entrants receive feedback from competition readers; finalists receive additional feedback from judges; and winning entries are published in the annual Nova Writes anthology.

Jampolis Cottage Sponsored Residencies

apply between Jan 7 and Feb 11

Sponsored Residencies (one to four weeks in Avonport, NS) are open to Nova Scotian writers. Each successful applicant is provided with free, private residence and a \$2000 honorarium.

BOOKTOBERFEST 2026



Book Market (Paul O'Regan Hall)